

	Type	L #	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp
1	BRS	L1	341214	(postage or indicia or indicium or evidence or evidencing or mark or marking or frank or franking or image or stamp or stamping or impression or inprint or imprint or imprinting or imprinting) near5 (request or requesting or requested or demand or demanded or demanding or obtain or obtained or obtaining)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:25
2	BRS	L2	3640	postage near (meter or metering or server)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:25
3	BRS	L3	25772	(account or accounting) near5 (vault or module or chip or card or psd or ped or psm or memory or nvm or smd)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:26
4	BRS	L4	3255	(2 or 3) near5 (remote or remotely or center or central or centrally or net or network or lan or wan or communicate or communication or internet or intranet)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:26
5	BRS	L5	190	1 same 4	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:27

	Type	L #	Hits	Search Text	DBs	Time Stamp
6	BRS	L6	377547	(postage or indicia or indicium or evidence or mark or marking or frank or franking or image or stamp or stamping or impression or inprint or imprint or imprinting or imprinting) near5 (generate or generated or generating or generation or build or building or built or construct or constructed or constructing or construction or combine or combined or combining or combination or create or created or creating or creation)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:27
7	BRS	L7	5856	6 near5 (remote or remotely or center or central or centrally)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:27
8	BRS	L8	67	5 and 7 <i>Scanned Ti, Ab, Kwic all</i>	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2005/03/11 17:27

	Document ID	Issue Date	Inventor	Current OR	Current XRef	Pages
1	WO 9857303 A	20040518	GRAVELL, L V et al.			14
2	US 6865557 B1	20050308	Cordery; Robert A et al.	705/60	380/51; 705/402; 705/403; 705/407; 705/408; 705/410; 705/62	16
3	US 6619544 B2	20030916	Bator; Felix et al.	235/381	235/495; 705/403; 705/59; 705/60	13
4	US 6594374 B1	20030715	Beckstrom; David W. et al.	382/101	382/175	12
5	US 6141654 A	20001031	Heiden; Richard W. et al.	705/408	235/375; 705/401; 705/410	11
6	US 6081795 A	20000627	Ryan, Jr.; Frederick W.	705/408	713/176	14
7	US 6005945 A	19991221	Whitehouse; Harry T.	380/51		25
8	US 5822739 A	19981013	Kara; Salim G.	705/410	235/375; 235/381; 705/401	15
9	US 20030078893 A1	20030424	SHAH, CHANDRAKANT et al.	705/60		15

78 results

US-PAT-NO: 6865557

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6865557 B1

TITLE: Network open metering system

DATE-ISSUED: March 8, 2005

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US-CL-CURRENT: 705/60, 380/51 , 705/402 , 705/403 , 705/407 , 705/408 , 705/410 , 705/62

ABSTRACT: A transaction evidencing system includes a plurality of computer systems operatively configured to form a network with one of the computer systems functioning as a server and the remaining computer systems functioning as clients. Each of the computer systems includes a processor, memory and storage media. At least some of the storage means includes non-metering application programs that are selectively run on the client computer systems. An unsecured printer is operatively coupled to at least one of the computer systems for printing in accordance with the non-metering application programs. A portable vault card, which is removably coupled to the server computer system, includes digital token generation and transaction accounting processing. The client computer systems issue requests for digital tokens to the server computer system in response to requests for indicia from the non-metering application programs. The requests for digital tokens include predetermined information required by the token generation processing. The server computer system communicates with the vault card when the vault card is coupled to the server computer system, sending the requests for digital tokens to the vault card and receiving from the vault card the generated digital tokens. The server computer system sends each digital token to the client computer system that requested the digital token. The requesting client computer system generates an indicia bitmap from the digital token. The server computer system receives from the vault a transaction record that includes the digital token and the predetermined information and stores the transaction record in its storage media.

19 Claims, 10 Drawing figures

Exemplary Claim Number: 1

Number of Drawing Sheets: 8

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Claims Text - CLTX (1): 1. A postage metering system comprising: a plurality of computers operatively connected as part of a computer network and operating as client computers on the computer network; at least one vault device coupled to at least one of the client computers (local client computer), said vault device including unique

identification, postal value storage means and digital token means; means in said client computers for functioning as a postage metering network wherein a client computer other than the local client computer (remote client computer) requests evidence of postage payment from the vault device for concluding a postage metering transaction.

Claims Text - CLTX (3): 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the remote client computer initiates a postage metering transaction in the vault device by sending a request for evidence of postage payment to the local client computer, said local client computer sends the request for the evidence of postage payment to the vault device, and wherein said local client computer receives transaction information.

Claims Text - CLTX (9): 9. The system of claim 1, further comprising: means in the remote client computer for initiating a postage metering transaction including means for sending a request for evidence of postage payment to the local client computer; means in said local client computer for forwarding the request for the evidence of postage payment to the vault device, means in said local client computer for receiving from the vault device transaction information including a postage amount and a digital token unique to the postage metering transaction; means for sending at least the postage amount and the digital token to the remote client computer; and means in said remote client computer for generating an indicium bitmap, including the postage amount and the digital token, for the postage metering transaction.

Claims Text - CLTX (18): 18. The system of claim 10, further comprising: means in the remote client computer for initiating a transaction including means for sending a request for a transaction evidence to the local client computer; means in said local client computer for forwarding the request for the transaction evidence to the security device; means in said local client computer for receiving from the security device transaction information including the transaction evidence and a digital token unique to the transaction; means for sending at least the transaction evidence and the digital token to the remote client computer; and means in said remote client computer for generating an indicium bitmap, including the transaction evidence and the digital token, for the transaction.